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Rhode Island Library Association Bulletin

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November/December 1992

A Conversation About Dynix

On Thursday, October 22nd, Susan Reed (president of CLAN), Janet Levesque (chair of the CLAN PR Committee) and Anne Toll (past president of CLAN) met with Mattie Gustafson to discuss the recent CLAN conversion from CLSI to Dynix. Dynix had just "come up" and all three library directors were sounding positive and up-beat about their recent experiences.

MEG: Let's start at the beginning. What is CLAN? What does it stand for? How did it start?

ABT: What happened was, Providence Public Library was the first library with automation in 1972. Sometime in 1979 Pawtucket Public Library and PPL decided to share a system. My understanding is, however, that they were to be two separate CLSI libraries that just happened to share the same hardware.

MEG: Was CLSI the only system available for Pawtucket?

SLR: Yes, CLSI was just about the only thing available then, but of course PPL had already been on CLSI – so if Pawtucket wanted to become automated without purchasing all of our own hardware, we had to choose the same system as Providence.

ABT: And then in 1981 Anna Lee Bundy [former Director of PPL] submitted a grant to the Champlin Foundation to locate a terminal in the three public libraries that were the farthest away from PPL (Woonsocket, Westerly and Newport), so that the people in these libraries would have access to the principle public library's collections. Champlin came back with a counter proposal: the libraries should each submit their own grant proposals and those proposals should not be just to have a terminal, but to join the system. And that's how CLAN started.

It was pretty frantic that first year because the three libraries were trying to put together a proposed budget with no clear idea about automation or what was needed. Finally, Woonsocket, Westerly and Newport submitted what we thought we needed and all three proposals were wildly different. Dave King, at Champlin,

sent us each copies of the other library's proposals and said "Get together, see what you missed and resubmit."

MEG And today CLAN has how many members?

ABT: 35 members

JAL: And that doesn't include the two libraries (Pontiac and Harmony) who have applied for membership and are awaiting funding.

MEG: CLAN stands for what?

ABT: Cooperating Libraries Automated Network.

Now at that time there was also RIALC (RI Automated Library Consortium) which was DSLS, Cranston and Barrington.

MEG: And they joined with CLAN when?

ABT: Around 1985.

MEG: Were they on CLSI, too?

ABT: Yes. And RIALC's hardware was at DSLS.

SLR: I heard Barbara Weaver say recently that 96% of the states population belong to libraries that are CLAN members. So CLAN serves most of the populated areas of the state.

MEG: Lets talk about the switch. Who made the decision to switch to Dynix and why?

JAL: We had three reasons for the change from CLSI to Dynix.

ABT: One of the reasons was the amount of down time we were experiencing with CLSI. Every time there was an upgrade to the system there was also a lot of downtime.

And also CLSI had been promising an overall modernization to their system (LIBS 100) for years.

SLR: Yes, they promised a lot of features and they took forever.

JAL: First the major upgrade was going to happen in January of '89, and then it was going to be November of '89 and then February of '90, and it just kept going on and on.

ABT: They had major problems and we did not know when they were going to solve those problems.

FLIRT was another major problem. CLSI had a proprietary software language called FLIRT. Now the mainframe hardware at PPL was limited in the number of ports we could use, so we ended up having to use two main frames and we were still reaching limits on the number of available ports. The block to enabling a greater number of ports seemed to be FLIRT.

Any expansion then - and people were always wanting additional terminals and new libraries were always joining - was impossible without buying still another main frame.

Dynix was able to take the boards out of the second mainframe, put them into the original mainframe, (thereby using one, and not two), and still give us more ports.

MEG: And there are more ports available?

ABT: Yes. All they need to do is put in more boards.

Another thing too was that CLSI used to customize a lot of their hardware and that caused problems. They used to change all the wiring inside the terminals so you couldn't just buy a terminal off the shelf and use it. You had to order it from CLSI and it was more expensive. Dynix hardware is off-the-shelf. This customizing also contributed to our problems during conversion. Dynix had to "uncustomize" the hardware.

CLSI was a pioneer in the early '70s, but their early start was also a problem for them. The companies who started 10 years later started at a different level. CLSI always seemed to be trying to catch up. LIBS 100 was supposed to make that big technological jump, and they say that it's now available, but I don't know if it's working with a system our size yet. So we could still be sitting, waiting for LIBS 100.

MEG: So then the CLAN Board got together and decided "Let's switch." Why did you choose Dynix? Were there many vendors out there to choose from?

ABT: Not a great deal.

JAL: Also, we had to work with our hardware.

ABT: Which didn't give us a lot of choice.

MEG: Where is Dynix located?

ABT: Provo, Utah.

MEG: And when was the final decision made?

SLR: It wasn't too long ago - was it last year?

ABT: Summer of last year - the summer of '91.

JAL: We wrote a grant for the installation and the software to Champlin.

MEG: One of the reasons you chose Dynix was because it matched your hardware. Does Dynix have any other features that you were looking forward to?

ABT: Yes - there were a lot of other features - an acquisitions module, a bookings module - none of which is offered by CLSI.

JAL: Also, Dynix is menu driven - so you don't have to memorize all the individual processes.

ABT: It's a lot more user friendly.

MEG: Why did conversion take so long?

ABT: Conversion from one system to another is a very complex thing. I remember Peter [Bennett, Chief of Support Services, PPL] saying the migration map was 50 pages long.

Further, the conversion from CLSI to Dynix could not be looked at and accomplished as a simple, one to one correlation. CLSI had certain parameters; Dynix had certain parameters. And they couldn't be translated directly because what a parameter meant within one system, didn't mean the same thing in the other. Everything had to go somewhere, and there wasn't always a direct path.

MEG: Talk a little bit about why it took so long. What were the problems - the hang ups?

SLR: I don't think it took so long - I think we hoped it wouldn't take so long.

ABT: One significant problem was people's perceptions. Everything started off going very well. We were ahead of schedule with most of the first steps and thought that the entire process would continue in the manner that it started. Actually, the contract gave a very wide completion window of between May and November of 1992.

SLR: Which means we were still ahead of schedule.

ABT: If everything had gone perfectly we would have been up in May. And because everything went so well at first we had very high expectations that we would in fact, meet the beginning of the deadline rather than the end. Everyone forgot about the November date. And I think that contributed a great deal to the problems, because everyone kept saying we were behind schedule when we weren't.

JAL: A lot of members made decisions on the basis of a short term conversion. And these were not the same decisions they would have made if they thought they were going to be down for six months.

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And I shouldn't say *down* for six months, but not operating fully for six months.

ABT: And the other thing too, is people kept saying to me that we were *down*. We were working with *mini circ* which is a on-line back up system. We also had access to an on-line catalog.

JAL: Yes - the system never went down.

ABT: In all that period there were only 8 days in which we were really down. Except for that short time period we had a partial system working all along. The real problem was that we didn't have access to circulation records. All current transactions were on the backup system. You didn't know if people were overdue, or what was checked out or on the shelf.

SLR: I bet there are some parts of the public that don't even know we did this. As long as they didn't care about status, it didn't affect them at all.

MEG: Were there any unexpected problems that turned up? or was it just this complexity of matching sets of parameters?

ABT: I think that was the main problem. There was also, I think on Dynix's part a misconception about what kind of system they were dealing with. They were looking at us and comparing us with large county library systems in the midwest. You know there are county library systems in the west and midwest that are larger than the whole state of Rhode Island. So they assumed that if they could handle systems like that, Rhode Island was going to be no problem.

But in the county system you have one central library with branches and everyone does things the same way. In Rhode Island we have the Independent Man and CLAN personifies the spirit of the Independent Man. One tenant of our whole system is that each library's autonomy is protected. I don't think Dynix anticipated the complexity of the migration.

For the longest time they kept referring to the libraries as *branches*. I went for training and I got very annoyed with one of the trainers after I corrected her for the third time when she kept referring to Newport as a *branch* of Providence. In my evaluation I put down, IN CAPITALS, please tell people we are *not branches*, but all independent libraries. I think that they were working with the assumption that we were all branches and PPL was going to tell us what to do and we were all going to fall in line and do what the "main library" told us. And that's not the way it works in Rhode Island.

They had misconceptions and we had misconceptions. It was not until the second training session where the trainer was very careful to not say branches that I realized that they had actually read the evaluations.

MEG: When did Dynix go up?

ABT: Some libraries went up Tuesday, October 14. The rest went on-line on Monday the 19th.

MEG: What do you think the impact of Dynix on library services will be?

ABT: We are hoping that Dynix is going to be a lot more efficient. Most patrons will be able to find out a lot more information for themselves with the on-line catalog. Not all libraries are going to use the same options, but generally with the on-line catalog, patrons can check their own record and see what they have checked out; how their registration information reads; what they have on hold; if they have any overdues, etc.

JAL: One really friendly aspect of Dynix is the ability to leave messages - even for patrons. For example, suppose a patron left some important papers in the photocopier. The library staff can attach a message to that person's file so that the next time they use their card, at any CLAN library, the message "You left your papers at XYZ Library." will appear.

ABT: Behind the scenes should be better as well. Dynix has an acquisitions module, so that everything that is on order will show up for both patrons and the staff to see. There is a bookings module, for booking meeting rooms or films; and a library news module, with which you can create a library bulletin board.

JAL: The really wonderful thing about this whole system is that it gives equal access to people no matter what city or town they come from. If you live in a little town with a population of 3,000 that can't afford all this stuff you still have access through CLAN. And I think that kind of accessibility will only improve.

ABT: Things are changing so rapidly you really don't know what is going to happen next. People keep prophesying the demise of the printed book but when you look at the people who come into the library a lot of them like to browse and that's something that is difficult to do with a screen - even if you have full text access.

And serendipity plays such a role in research. Glancing through the journals on a shelf may spark a new idea or avenue of research - and this ability to browse is missing in most databases.

The other difficulty is control vocabulary. If you don't know the right word you could search forever. And uncontrolled vocabulary has difficulty picking up synonyms.

MEG: My vision of the future has always been based on the Star Trek model: Spock (or anyone) walks into a room and says, "Computer?" The computer answers "Working..." The inquirer asks a question and after some brief minutes the computer answers. Simple, direct and efficient.

ABT: That might be a good picture of the 23rd century, but you would need a computer with the ability to make those verbal matches with synonyms and so on.

SLR: This system has the ability for people to search for a title with the accompanying ability to place that title on hold for themselves, thereby bypassing the reference interview. We're not sure this is a good thing. Will patrons put something on hold without realizing that there are other materials that will meet their needs sitting right on the shelf?

MEG: I read an interview last month that said "I've never seen a computer yet who can conduct a reference interview." You know yourselves that many people come to the library not realizing what they really want. The computer is not capable of guiding them through any kind of dialog to ascertain their needs.

ABT: That's a real concern - that people will miss out because they think they know what kind of material is available and how to find it.

As for the many futuristic versions of the bookless library - I really don't see this happening. It's like the different formats through which people learn. Some people learn better with one format rather than another. Some patrons are very comfortable with a computer format, but others learn better through a printed medium. We're hoping Dynix will be a comfortable computer format for our patrons.

Rhode Island Newspaper Project is Going on the Road

BY KENDRA ST. AUBIN

The Rhode Island Historical Society was awarded a \$102,000 Grant in 1991 as part of the United States Newspaper Program, a nationwide effort to preserve each state's newspapers. The program is coordinated by the Library of Congress and funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Rhode Island has had a distinguished history of newspaper publishing since 1732, when the *Rhode Island Gazette* was issued in Newport. The Society, having recognized the value of newspapers as a historical record and research tool since its inception in 1822, maintains the largest collection of Rhode Island newspapers in the state. Library Director, Madeleine Telfeyan, is the Project Director.

The goal of the Rhode Island Newspaper Project is to identify, catalog and preserve all existing Rhode Island newspapers. During the first phase of the project in 1983, Rhode Island's libraries participated in surveys of their holdings. From April 1991 to July 1992,

Kendra St. Aubin, Chief Cataloger and Coordinator and Kate Viens, Assistant Cataloger, inventoried, cataloged and assessed the physical condition of 670 newspaper titles held at the Historical Society. They created complete bibliographic descriptions and 883 local holdings records indicating the specific issues held in each format. This information was entered into OCLC and added to the National Union List of Newspapers.

The Rhode Island Historical Society Library recently received a grant for \$40,635 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to extend the cataloging phase of Rhode Island's Newspaper Project to April 1993. Kendra St. Aubin and Kate Viens are now beginning visits to 47 other libraries throughout the state to inventory and catalog newspaper holdings. A statewide program to microfilm newspapers for permanent preservation will constitute the third phase of the project.

United States Newspaper Program Coordinators Bob Harriman and Bill Anderson from the Library of Congress visited the Rhode Island project on July 29 and 30. They make at least one trip during every grant cycle for each state's newspaper project. They reviewed the work which has been accomplished and offered suggestions for upcoming work at other libraries. Although conditions vary from state to state, their insights will help to increase the efficiency of Rhode Island's operations in the field. Bob and Bill visited the Massachusetts Newspaper Project in Boston before arriving in Rhode Island, but they agreed that their fresh seafood dinner in Warren was the best meal of the trip.

On July 27, Kendra St. Aubin began the project team's site visit to Brown University with the John Hay Library collection of newspapers housed in the depths of the Rockefeller Library stacks. In addition to early Rhode Island titles with issues which may fill in gaps in the Historical Society's collection, the Hay Library holds many eighteenth and nineteenth century papers from Boston, New York, and other cities. All of this information will be entered into the database. Kendra and Kate completed work at the Hay Library on September 16. On September 17 they began to inventory the microfilm newspaper collections in the Rockefeller Library. The project staff appreciates the cooperation of Brown librarians which is essential to the success of the program.

Kate Viens also made site visits to Peace Dale and Kingston in July. The visits were prompted by the discovery at the Historical Society of a cache of 1916 *Narragansett Times* newspapers which had not yet been microfilmed. At Kingston, three issues were found to fill in gaps in the January to September run of the newspaper. These are now being filmed and will be available at the Historical Society as well as in

South Kingstown later this year. While in Peace Dale and Kingston, Kate inventoried 137-year-old issues of the local newspaper as well as out-of-state papers such as 1847 issues of the *New York Evening Express*. The Peace Dale and Kingston collections testify to the reading habits of 19th-century residents and summer visitors alike.

Soon the project staff will be making appointments to visit the rest of the libraries throughout Rhode Island. Although the collections of the Rhode Island Historical Society and others throughout the state contain extensive newspaper holdings, many papers once published in Rhode Island are lost, inaccessible, or endangered. Project staff will be searching for missing titles and issues that fill gaps in holdings. The support of Rhode Island's librarians is needed to ensure the success of this cooperative effort. If you have questions, please call Kate or Kendra at (401) 331-8575.

News and Notes

RILA Annual Fall Meeting

— November 1992 —

- Judith Bell, outgoing RILA Treasurer, presented the proposed 1993 budget, in which the anticipated expenses exceeded the anticipated income by \$3465. Discussion followed on these financial projections, as well as the drop in RILA membership.

Janet Levesque, incoming President, stated that one of her priorities for 1993 was to "get the Membership Committee on solid ground." Purchasing and utilizing an adequate software package would enable the time previously spent on administrative tasks to be devoted to more efficient and direct follow up.

The membership accepted the deficit budget as presented.

- Judith Paster, outgoing President, thanked those who worked with her over the past year. Paster was particularly pleased with the system of interlocking attendance at various meetings (RIEMA, COLA) that was set up during her tenure. She credited this system with the timely alert Rhode Island librarians received with regard to the Children's Cabinet and the lack of mention of children's services available through public libraries.

- Janet Levesque, incoming President, also began with "Thank you's" to colleagues. Her priorities for the upcoming year are:

- monitoring and maintaining a dialogue with the Library Board of Rhode Island,
- implementing resolutions from the Governor's Conference on Libraries and Information Services,
- working with the Government Relations Committee to design and submit new legislation to benefit Rhode Island's libraries,
- working with the Membership Committee to streamline and update membership files and procedures.

- Levesque closed by saying, "No RILA president is any better or worse than the volunteers who are willing to participate with her."

Levesque thanked outgoing President, Judith Paster, and presented her with a gift.

[A complete list of RILA Officers and Committee Chairpeople for 1993 will appear in the next Bulletin issue.]

Reflections from a Past President

For those of you who were not with us last Monday, I can testify that you missed one of the truly rewarding experiences that characterize the Rhode Island library community.

I would like to share some of my memories of Monday's meeting with you and conclude with some of my thoughts on the past year.

Our Fall Conference was held at the Barrington Public Library which hearkens back to earlier years when conferences were held in a "notable" library. Barrington's building seemed especially welcoming last week, maybe because it was a beautiful October day whose reflections could be seen through the skylights. Or perhaps it was the courtesy of the library's staff and that of our own Conference committee, or, for me, being there seemed a way of remembering Ruth Corkill who loved this library and who worked hard in various RILA capacities over the years. Somehow, a homelike atmosphere enveloped me even as I hung up my coat. And as I slipped into a seat beside incoming president Janet Levesque, I recognized many faces from libraries I've worked in, or with whom I've worked on RILA affairs.

Our speakers, too, had an intimate "one on one" relationship to the group. Bob Cooper, who spoke on the ADA and the state, sat in his wheelchair and talked directly, without notes. J. Michael Keating discussed the techniques of "alternative dispute resolution" casually, conversationally, and yet managing to

provide a virtual handbook on the subject.

After a "gourmet" lunch under the aforementioned skylights, about half the group stayed on for the Business Meeting. As president, I'd prepared an agenda, a simple one. At the previous Executive Board meeting, I'd asked if it wanted some speeches, on library topics, but got the message, "Don't make anybody speak." (I might say that this kind of feistiness characterized all of the Board meetings that I ran. I must admit that though I sometimes inwardly tore my hair, basically I agree with this kind of scrutiny and discussion, and do think it characterizes "how we do things" in Rhode Island.)

For my own thoughts on the past year and what lies ahead for RILA, I looked back at my notes for last year's business meeting. I discovered that out of four stated goals, two had been met, and though that looked bad at first, it still stands as 50 percent, and that's not bad even for someone not dealing with family crises as I had been.

So what of the "pluses"? I think that our committees are flourishing. Several which had been in various states of decay have active programs: Public Relations, Federal Relations, Trustee Relations (credit for help here and elsewhere must go to Barbara Weaver, who has, at every point, guided and facilitated our activities and deliberations.) The quality of our chairs and members is exemplary, and that includes our new Publications Chair, whose energy and ideas were clearly seen in her impromptu remarks at the meeting. It is people like these who make working within RILA a satisfying experience. The second "plus" I see is the interlocking attendance at other library associations' meeting.

And last, I'd like to say that no one could have had a better Board than I, but I'd also hasten to say that the new Board is as good, if not better. We all are pleased that this RILA board does indeed represent special and academic libraries, as well as public. Janet Levesque will make a most effective president of RILA.

I appreciate, with all my heart, Janet's thoughtful words at the conclusion of the meeting, and the tiny piano that plays "Für Elise" touched me very much.

Last Monday's meeting lingers in my memory and reminds me too of the words, "each man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main." As I saw people I had not seen in a while - Emma Baron, Joan Ress Reeves, Tanya Trinkaus Glass, all people I've worked with in libraries, I felt very, very fortunate. I urge you to join us, to come to our meetings, to be "a part of the main."

Judith Paster

Library Challenge Grants from the ADDD Fund of the Rhode Island Community Foundation

Request For Proposals

The ADDD (Archive-Document-Display-Disseminate) Fund was established within the Rhode Island Community Foundation to support efforts to use media to stimulate community dialogue. The ADDD Fund will also make Challenge Grants for fund raising campaigns for libraries. Application for grants from the ADDD Fund does not limit an organization's right to apply for other grants from the Rhode Island Foundation/Rhode Island Community Foundation.

ADDD Fund Library Challenge Grants are intended to provide added funding for campaigns planned to meet local needs. A variety of campaigns are acceptable—for example, annual fund raising drives and special campaigns directed toward acquisition of equipment, special collections, or more books, publications and holdings in other media. It is up to you to suggest the challenge.

Challenge Grants to support libraries may be requested by any Rhode Island library or library support organization with 501(c)(3) status. Applications must be submitted each year prior to initiation of the campaign being challenged. The intent of these *Challenge Grants* is to encourage libraries to set monetary targets for their campaigns and to plan carefully their fund raising tactics before they approach the community. *You will not be in competition with other applicants. All properly fashioned campaigns for which a completed application has been approved will receive funds.* Specific grant amounts will be negotiated in a discussion with the Foundation, after applications are received.

Applicants should be thinking of a multi-year progression. Grants to support future years will be "stepped up" in an orderly manner if campaigns are successful. Maximum awards will be based on previous year's involvement.

The annual deadline for applications is January 1.

For more information contact: Carol Golden, Special Funds Officer, at 274-4564.

BULLETIN BOARD

The RILA PR Committee has been investigating the possibility of producing a cable television show about RILA and other library activities. We need a pool of people who can operate the cameras and provide technical assistance. If you would like to help and already have a certificate from one of the cable access operations; or if you would like to help and would be willing to receive training, please contact Joe McGovern at DSLS, 277-2726; FAX 831-1131.



Brown University's The John Hay Library has received a grant of \$72,466 from the U.S. Department of Education. Title II-C Programs for the first year of a two-year project to provide original cataloging for 4,000 books, pamphlets and serials in the H. Adrian Smith Collection of Conjuring and Magicana.

Using the card catalog created by Mr. Smith, 30% of the titles in the collection were converted by OCLC's Retrocon Service through the Title II-C grant received in Fiscal Year 1990-1991. "Retrospective Conversion of the John Hay Library." The remaining titles, estimated to require 95% original cataloging, will be cataloged in RLIN and loaded into OCLC. These records will add significantly to both databases.

Harold Adrian Smith, Brown Class of 1930, began to collect magic books in 1924. Over the next 63 years, he amassed a collection on the art, theory and history of magic as a performance art that became one of the two greatest collections of its kind in the world. Mr. Smith gave the collection to Brown in 1988 and died in January of this year.



The Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) announces the publication of a manual on preservation of library and archival materials funded in part by a grant from the Institute of Museum Services (IMS). Sherelyn Ogden, NEDCC's Director of Book Conservation, developed and edited the publication.

The manual consists of a series of 37 technical leaflets on collections care with the primary emphasis on prevention of deterioration of whole collections. Topics covered include preservation planning and prioritizing, the environment, emergency management, storage and handling, reformatting, and

conservation procedures. Professional illustrations make the "how-to" leaflets easy to understand and use. The manual consists of a number of NEDCC's standard technical leaflets, which have been updated and expanded, as well as additional new leaflets written specifically for the publication. The 160 page manual has been produced in notebook form so that it can be updated periodically.

The purpose of the manual is to provide the basic, practical information needed to enable non-conservator staff members of libraries and archives to plan and implement sound collections care programs or to incorporate preservation principles into existing programs.

To obtain a copy of *Preservation of Library and Archival Materials: A Manual* send a check made out to NEDCC for \$20 plus \$3.50 postage and handling to the Northeast Document Conservation Center, 100 Brickstone Square, Andover, MA 01810. For questions regarding the manual contact Sherelyn Ogden at NEDCC at (508) 470-1010.



The Medical Library Association sponsors a \$2000 scholarship for minority students who are pursuing a graduate degree in library and information science with an emphasis on health sciences librarianship. The purpose of the MLA Scholarship for minority students is to encourage candidates showing excellence in scholarship and potential for accomplishment in health sciences librarianship.

The scholarship will be granted to a Black, Hispanic, Asian, Native American or Pacific Island American student entering or continuing at the master's level. The application deadline is February 1.

For application and further information, please contact the Professional Development Department at the Medical Library Association, Suite 300, Six North Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60602-4005. (312) 419-9094



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Fort Hays State University is sponsoring the 20th Literature Study Tour, July 8 to August 2, 1993 traveling to Italy and Greece, including Sicily and several Greek islands. Study sessions and excursions related to literature are being planned. Early registration is recommended. For more information write to: Donna J. Harsh, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Fort Hays State University, 600 Park Street, Hays, KS 67601-4099.

PEOPLE

PAULA AZAR, is now a Reference Librarian at Providence Public Library.

LUCILLE CAMERON, URI's Dean of Libraries for the past three years, retired in September.

CHRISTINE DANIELI, has been promoted to Head, Classified Library at the Naval War College.

NORMAN DESMARAIS, Acquisitions Librarian at Providence College, presented a paper entitled, "An Electronic Carriage or Horseless Book?," at the Issues in Book and Serial Acquisition Conference in Charleston, SC.

DONNA DUFAULT, Director of the North Kingstown Free Library, has recently been appointed Chair of ALA's National Library Week Committee.

JOANN FUCHS has been appointed Assistant Director of the Pawtucket Public Library. She was formerly Coordinator of Technical Services at Pawtucket.

ELIZABETH GONCALO is the new Acquisitions Librarian at the Naval War College library.

MICHAEL JACKSON was appointed Reference/Collection Development Librarian at Brown University in August.

MICHELLE KEMSLEY has been appointed Government Documents Assistant at Providence College.

ANN MALO has been appointed a Reference Librarian at Providence Public Library.

DANIEL O'MAHONY recently was appointed Government Documents Coordinator at Brown University.

DAVID PANCIERA, Director of the Westerly Public Library, has been elected to the Rhode Island House of Representatives (District 50).

PATRICIA PUTNEY was appointed Head, Acquisitions Department at Brown University in July.

MARGUERITE RAUCH is now Reference Librarian at the Naval War College.

VIRGINIA SCRIBNER (ABUSHANAB), Librarian at the Charlestown Elementary School, will have her first book published in February by Viking Press. Titled *Gopher Takes Heart*, the book features Gopher Goff as the main character who discovers there is more than one way to beat the school bully.

A REQUEST

Dear RILA:

I am collecting material concerning any instances of hauntings, presence of spirits or ghosts reported in libraries in the U.S. The Gray Lady of Willard Library, Evansville, Ind. is one example. I have in mind compiling these stories into a book if I receive enough response to my queries.

I am writing to all the library associations in the United States in the hope that this letter might be published. In this way I hope to reach as many libraries as possible. If any libraries in your state have stories of this nature please send them to:

Vicki Hoke
421 W. Waverly
Goshen, IN 46526

I would appreciate as much detail, historical as relating to site or otherwise, how it has affected the library, how the staff/patrons deal with this. If it would be possible I would also appreciate a picture of the library.

Thank you for your help.

Vicki Hoke

J O B L I N E

The Rhode Island Library Association's current minimum recommended salary is \$26,500 per year, or \$14.50 an hour for a full-time beginning librarian.



LIBRARY SYSTEMS ANALYSIS/PLANNING LIBRARIAN, Assistant/Associate Professor

Under the general direction of the Dean of University Libraries, plan, implement, and evaluate computerized library systems. Assist departments with the formulation of long-range plans involving automation, facilities, workflow, and advanced technologies. Participate in a multi-college consortial integrated system. Participate in various university automation initiatives and faculty/professional activities. Required: ALA accredited master's degree; demonstrated programming ability; excellent interpersonal skills, including demonstrated ability to work effectively with faculty, staff, and students; a minimum of two (2) years relevant experience in an academic/research library or corporate information center. Preferred: experience with large bibliographic files and networking systems [Innovative Interfaces, Inc.]; bachelor's degree in computer/management science or related discipline. Rank and salary commensurate with qualifications and experience; calendar year appointment, minimum salary \$33,000. At the Associate Professor level, the candidate must have a demonstrated record of publication and service and 7 years professional library experience. Position will remain open until filled; applications will be reviewed beginning December 15, 1992. Submit letter of application, resume, and names of three references to: Search Committee Chair, Position #106725, UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND, P.O. Box G, Kingston, RI 02881.

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LIBRARIAN I, CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Pawtucket Public Library. Entry Level position. Excellent benefits. Assists in collection development, reference and reader's advisory service, and plans and presents programs. Must have an ALA accredited MLS. Includes some evening and weekend hours. Salary \$20,444.56 - \$21,885.68. Send resume and the names of 3 references to Personnel Department, City Hall, Pawtucket, RI 02860. Open until filled.

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GIFTS AND BIBLIOGRAPHIC SERVICES LIBRARIAN

Brown University Library. Reports to the Head, Acquisitions Department. Responsible for managing the bibliographic, gifts and exchange units; contact with vendors and publishers; coordination of gift transactions including contact with donors; managing gifts storage and disposal of unwanted material; liaison with Collection Development Librarians/Curators relating to ordering, fund expenditures and gifts selection; supervises the work of 5.5 FTE support staff and student assistants. Requirements: MLS degree from an ALA accredited library school; broad liberal arts academic background; reading knowledge of at least one foreign language; previous experience in academic libraries and/or book trade preferred; experience in acquisitions and bibliographic searching desired; familiarity with special collections desired; supervisory experience desired. Salary: Minimum salary from \$25,300, based on experience. Send letter of application, resume and names of three references to Patti Neves, Dept. of Human Resources, Brown University, Providence, RI 02912. Review of applications will begin on January 15 and will continue until the position is filled.

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CATALOG LIBRARIAN

The John Carter Brown Library at Brown University is seeking candidates for the position of Catalog Librarian. The Library specializes in the collection of printed materials pertaining to the Americas, North and South, during the colonial period, 1493 to ca. 1830. You will be responsible for the original cataloging of early printed books, pamphlets, and serials. Requirements: ALA-accredited MLS degree; 2-3 years of professional rare book cataloging experience using AACR2-Rev., Descriptive Cataloging of Rare Books, LCSH, and MARC formats; familiarity with the RLIN or OCLC cataloging systems; reading knowledge of Latin, Italian, and Spanish. Salary range is \$25,300 to \$30,000 based on experience. Starting date: April 1, 1993. Send letter of application, resume, and names/addresses of three references by January 15, 1993 to **Department of Human Resources, Brown University, Box 1879, Providence, RI 02912.**

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EDITOR'S JOURNAL

As I mentioned in the October issue, I am "returning" to the library field after a 3-4 year "sabbatical." I also said, last editorial, that I felt this was an interesting and exciting time to be a part of the library profession. And I still believe this to be true. However, I am discovering that there are many of my colleagues who, understandably, do not share this outlook. The state of the economy and resultant fiscal constraints seem to have seriously affected my fellow librarian's enthusiasm and ability to enjoy or even be challenged by their work.

Two related symptoms of this *malaise* (though certainly not the only symptoms) seem to be a drop in RILA membership and low attendance at RILA conferences.

At the risk of offending other RILA Committees I think that the Conference Committee is one of the hardest working committees in RILA. They are charged with presenting two yearly conferences and to judge from the last two I have attended they do so in an exemplary fashion.

I wonder, however, if the Rhode Island library community sometimes thinks too small?

I heard (from a reliable source!) that a financial goal of the Spring conference was (and is) to break even. Now this is a worthy goal - and certainly laudable, given present circumstances. But goals like this also, I think, tend to narrow one's vision considerably. The conservative approach involves little risk, minimizes challenges, and yields commensurate results.

Let's splurge. (To use the modern idiom- Let's do it!) Let's invest some money and bring in one, wonderful key-note speaker that excites the library community and will cause debate and discussion for months into the future. Let's build the conference around this speaker and spin off discussion groups, round tables, demonstrations - whatever seems appropriate.

[Note: At the October Executive Board meeting, Mary Masse Harty, Chair of the Conference Committee did indeed suggest concentrating on one, blockbuster speaker for the Spring.]

Picture this - you're opening for the first time, the flyer announcing the Spring conference - dates, times, place and speaker. WHO would guarantee your enthusiastic attendance? WHAT NAME - emblazoned on that flyer would make you say to yourself, "Yes!" - grab the calendar and mark it in red ink? This person need not be a librarian. Many issues facing the library community are universal - and can be addressed by experts in various areas of expertise.

Let's publicize the conference throughout Rhode Island - to all library associations and libraries, and indeed, throughout New England. Let's invite representatives from ALA and NELA. Let's invite scholars and representatives from RICH and NEH. Let's videotape the proceedings and do follow up interviews. Let's create a permanent print record of the proceedings and distribute them for comments and discussion.

Now's your chance. Write a name and address on a piece of paper and mail it to a Conference Committee member. (Or to anyone on the *Bulletin* staff. We'll forward it.) Who would YOU like to see? WHAT would you like to hear about? WHAT do you NEED to hear about? Think big. Envision. Dream.

The RILA BULLETIN is published nine times per year by the Rhode Island Library Association. Managing Editor: Mattie Gustafson, Newport Public Library, Box 8, Newport, RI 02840 (847-8720); Feature Editors: Norman Desmarais, Providence College, Phillips Memorial Library, Providence, RI 02918 (865-2241) and Wendy Knickerbocker, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI 02908 (456-9605); News Editor: Frank Iacono, DSLS, 300 Richmond Street, Providence, RI 02903-4222 (277-2726); Jobline: Pam Stoddard, Government Documents Department, URI Library, Kingston, RI 02881 (792-2606); Advertising and Subscriptions Manager: Elizabeth Johnson, Cranston Public Library, 140 Sockanosset Cross Road, Cranston, RI 02920 (943-9080). A current list of RILA Executive Board Members and Committee Chairs is available in Volume 65, No. 1-2. Subscriptions: free to members; \$15/year in U.S.; \$20/year foreign. Deadlines: 1st of the month for features and 15th of the month for everything else. Advertising: \$130 full page; \$65 half page; \$40 quarter page; \$15 business card size. Change of address: members contact the Membership Committee Chair, Donna Dufault, 1503 Middle Road, East Greenwich, RI 02818 (885-3174). Subscription correspondence: contact Subscriptions Manager. For further information, contact the appropriate Editor. Technical Production: Verbatim, Inc., 769B Hope Street, Providence, RI 02906 (273-6930). Printing by Lewis Graphics, 1655 Elmwood Avenue, Cranston, RI 02920 (941-4444). LC 57-26438.

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